

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 27 has been newly added herewith.

Examiner Interview

Applicants' representative conducted an interview with the Examiner on July 6, 2006 and thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended at that time. During the interview the rejection of the claims over Sugahara was discussed. Particularly, the term "attributive information" was discussed. As noted in the Examiner's Interview Summary, the Examiner asserted that the "attributive information" term was broad so as not to distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. Claim 11 and its use of the term "error correction codes" was also discussed.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Sugahara (U.S. Patent No. 6,483,873). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 recites controlling the recording of an information signal in accordance with a combination of copy control information and an attributive information of an apparatus. With such a method, a non-limiting embodiment of the invention consistent with claim 1 can prevent a recording information signal if it is determined that a copy is illegal. For example, the combination of the copy control information indicating "Copy once" and the attributive information indicating that the information signal is outputted from "reproduction apparatus" cannot occur normally. The claimed invention, which controls the recording of an information signal in accordance with the combination of copy control information and attributive information as claimed, can detect the combination of "copy once" and "reproduction

apparatus”. If such a combination is detected, it is determined that the copy is illegal and the recording information signal is forbidden.

Sugahara does not disclose a process of controlling the recording of an information signal based on copy control information and attributive information as specifically claimed. Instead, Sugahara (USP 6,483,873) merely discloses a way of restricting a reproduction of information on the basis of a protect level of a recording medium and an apparatus. That is, Sugahara (USP 6,483,873) does not control a recording of an information signal, as claimed, but merely controls a reproduction of the information. Further, the control of Sugahara (USP 6,483,873) is not based on copy control information, but merely based on a protect level of the medium. The protect level is not used for restricting a copy of the information, but merely used for restricting a reproduction of the information. Moreover, the control of Sugahara (USP 6,483,873) is not based on the attributive information indicating that the information signal is outputted from a “reproduction apparatus”, but merely based on the protect level of the apparatus. Therefore, Sugahara (USP 6,483,873) is totally different from the present invention, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Independent claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, 19 and 23 are allowable at least for reasons similar to claim 1. Also, claims 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24-26 are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies from one of the independent claims.

New Claim

Claim 27 has been newly added in order to provide a more varied scope of protection. Claim 27 depends from claim 1 and is therefore allowable at least by virtue of its dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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